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The Intelligencer.

WHEELING, MARCH 14, 1892.

The approaching contest is rendered especially important by reason of the industrial and financial policies of the Government being at stake. The popular decision on these issues is of great moment and will be of far-reaching consequence.—James G. Blaine.

The Stone Bridge Again.

It was not expected that the Register would be able to reply to the INTELLIGENCER's stone bridge inquiry without getting red in the face. Our neighbor occupies nearly two columns of its space in an effort to cover up what we must continue to think a brazen piece of sharp practice played on the people of Wheeling.

It will avail the Register and those for whom it speaks nothing to get behind the engineers to do their fighting. The engineers and their skill are not in question, unless it be the political engineers who worked the scheme through.

Of course there were departures from the original plan as it was given to the people, and of course that was part of the scheme. Start a bridge on paper for \$75,000, work the thing up to a bridge loan of \$100,000, then put on "betterments" and "equities" and that sort of thing and run the cost up to \$131,000 for a bridge not yet completed, and here we have the way it was done.

And "the contractors have found it a losing job to the tune of \$20,000." Then the cost of the bridge thus far has been \$151,000, borne partly by the city, partly by the contractors. Did the Register and its friends know that the contractors would consent to lose \$20,000 on the work?

The Market street iron bridge has nothing to do with the case—it doesn't matter what the bridge cost originally, how long it was under construction or what has been the cost for repairs. A steel bridge to answer all requirements could have been built over Main street for much less than \$75,000, would certainly have been ready for use long before this and, if properly constructed, would have cost very little for repairs.

One more pertinent inquiry, which can hardly be answered by falling back on the engineers. What became of the home labor that was to be employed on the stone bridge—that bait that was so liberally used to catch gudgeons?

Not Enough Pay.

An Indiana Republican has as much right as any other Republican to object to the renomination of President Harrison, and he has the same right to his own reasons. Other Republicans have a right to guess his reason if they can and to criticize it.

The protesting brother who did not get a very elaborate hearing in the state convention of Indiana Republicans did not give his reason, but from what he said it is reasonable to infer that he or somebody close to him fain would have filled himself with some public pay and the President did not give him.

Doubtless the President did as well as he could, but there was not enough to round. In distributing what he had at his disposal it is probable that he made some mistakes in Indiana and elsewhere, overlooking more deserving men and conferring places on the less deserving.

Distributors of patronage having less ground to cover and being less embarrassed with the richness of the material offering are not always able to hold the scales of justice in even balance. Then there is the large army of the undeserving men whose party service consists mainly in the tooling of their own horns—no earthly power can satisfy them.

The President has given satisfaction to the great body of his party, who have asked no peremptory and met with no disappointments; and among his stoutest supporters are men who sought and did not obtain office and are too sensible to nurse a grievance because they could not get what they wanted.

The Coal Combine.

The president of the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company is a refreshingly frank man. He tells the New York investigators that the middle man have been making a profit of \$1 \$9 a ton, which he thinks too much; says the combination will cut out this middleman and—will the combination give to consumers the profit heretofore taken by the middleman? No, says the Reading president, not exactly, but by saving that to the combination, a fairer average of selling price can be struck.

A power strong enough to drive out the middleman and fix the selling price is obviously strong enough to control, and of necessity must control, production, including the compensation to labor in and about the mines. Putting these things together the combination,

while seemingly a master-stroke of railroad policy, has none of the earmarks of a great public benefaction.

It is very questionable whether under the laws of Pennsylvania it can hold together. The courts will have a chance to answer this question.

The English Miners' Strike.

The strike of the English coal miners is unprecedented in the history of labor movements. The employers threatened a reduction in wages. Some of the miners proposed to shorten the day and reduce the number of working days to five. This proposition did not meet the views of the operators to whom it was presented, although if the miners had been united in that idea it is possible that it might have prevailed.

As a last resort the miners hit on their present movement. They walk out of the mines 400,000 strong and take a holiday long enough to reduce the stocks of coal in the market and so put up the price. The second part of their scheme in fact preceded the first, for the announcement of the plan of campaign advanced the price of coal one dollar a ton from one day to the next.

If the price could be maintained, and if the mine operators would give the advance to the miners, or even share it fairly with them, the success would be complete. The two first rest on a foundation too uncertain for the miners to base much hope on.

Already the price of coal is falling as it is seen that great manufacturing establishments consuming largely of coal are going to take a hand for their own defense by quietly shutting down their works and waiting for the clouds to roll by.

Whatever may be the result, the movement is of unusual interest by reason of its novelty.

Where Raw Material Is Free.

The following figures furnished by the British Iron Trade Association are decidedly interesting:

Articles—Gross tons.	1890.	1891.
Pig iron.....	7,875,130	7,228,093
Bessemer steel ingots.....	2,014,513	1,612,005
Bessemer steel rails.....	1,019,690	652,576
Open-hearth steel.....	1,561,299	1,514,533

The falling off in the production of these important articles is a large contribution to the industrial depression which to-day afflicts and for some time past has afflicted Great Britain. British producers of iron and steel have all the advantages which go with raw material, and free traders profess to believe these to be very great.

There are people in Great Britain who think we have greater advantages in this country, where we hold that no material is too raw to be protected if it can be produced by the labor of American hands.

Hill and His Opinions.

If Senator Hill can't tell Congressman Harter whether he is for or against free silver or betwixt and between, how is he going to tell the country when he comes to write his letter of acceptance in the sweet by-and-bye?

Mr. Harter is a Democrat and has a right to ask the question of a Democrat who has allied "his castor in" the ring for the presidential nomination of his party.

Mr. Hill may think it was unkind to ask him to express an opinion, but opinions should be part of the stock in trade of a statesman, which is what Hill is laying himself out to be.

The estimated output of the tin mines of the world, those of Bolivia excepted, for the year 1891 was 57,551 tons. Of this the English production was 9,000 tons. England is a large importer of tin. She could produce tin plate if she had no tin deposits. The same is true of the United States. In this country there is a promising tin development, although we have the world to buy in as Great Britain has. Tin enters our ports without paying duty.

If 400,000 miners were to lay down their picks in this country it would be said by the free traders that protection had done in it. When it happens in free trade England the free trade oracles are dumb as any clam. How can this be, if their political economy is universal in its application?

GENERAL BUSHROD W. PRICE makes some very interesting comments on the attitude of the men who are kicking themselves to death in Mr. Cleveland's interest. The veteran Democrat of Marshall county thinks with great clearness on this subject, and his letter will set other Democrats to thinking.

The talk about Henry M. Stanley for Parliament—they don't run over there, they stand—is in sweet forgetfulness of the fact that Stanley is a citizen of the "land of the free and the home of the brave." He can become a naturalized British subject, but he hasn't up to date.

Iowa seems to be getting her eyes open and her senses back. The most conspicuous fruit of the prohibition policy next to the drug store crop is the frittering away of the immense Republican majority. But that will come back again.

Why are foreigners demanding our gold? And why don't they demand our silver, of which we have a greater abundance? The answer is an unanswerable argument against the unlimited coinage of silver.

If the Standard Oil Trust is to go the way of all flesh—a conclusion not to be jumped at—look out for tramps. The poor fellows who have been in that deal must do something for a living.

Our exports in February 1892 were nearly \$12,000,000 greater than in February 1891. We are doing very well this year.

CAMPBELL for President? Oh, no, run him some more for governor of Ohio. That is fun enough.

MR. CLEVELAND may not thank Mr. Waterson for his frankness, but what is the matter with Waterson's diagnosis of the case? If Cleveland and Hill are

not ruled out by what has happened in New York all rules of politics must have been repealed.

The American seal is not afraid of the English lion; and if the unicorn comes knocking around the eagle will take care of him.

EMPEROR WILLIAM'S sic volo, sic jubeo, means, probably, that he is open for engagement as umpire of a base ball club.

The cake walk is pushing base ball hard for precedence as our national game.

BREAKFAST BUDGET.

A queer old couple got off the cars in a New York depot the other day. The old lady asked her husband the time of day and he looked at his big silver watch and replied it was 3 o'clock. "But they said we'd get here about 2," she protested. "Train might have been late." "It wasn't quite 2 by the clock in the depot." He took out his bull's eye again for another look; held it up to his ear to see if it was going and then suddenly exclaimed: "Oh, pshaw! I'm an hour ahead! I've had her set for the hired man to get up by, and forgot to turn 'er back."

Tennessee has six surviving ex-governors, and they all reside within the borders of the state. The oldest of them all is Senator Isham G. Harris, who has been in politics longer than any other man in the state, and whose public career links the ante-bellum days with the present. He has passed nearly sixty years in office, and for thirty years he has sat in the senate.

The largest gun manufactured at the Krupp gun works, Essen, Germany, weighs 270,000 pounds and is of the finest quality of steel. The calibre of this monster engine of death is 10 1/2 inches, and the barrel 33 feet long. The greatest diameter of this gun is 6 1/2 feet, and the range is about 12 miles.

Caspar Haizmeyer, a rancher of Hillsboro, Ore., on the eve of his marriage, fell from the roof of a barn and broke an ankle. The guests had been invited and the minister engaged for his wedding, so the doctor put the foot and ankle in a plaster cast, and Caspar was married on schedule time.

A hundred thousand children of Denmark, with penny contributions, have procured a crown of gold, to be presented to the king and queen on their golden wedding day. The gift is wrought to represent corn ears and clover leaves and interlaced with a ribbon bearing an inscription.

Mrs. George B. McClellan and Miss McClellan have taken the house, No. 115 East Sixteenth street, New York. Mrs. McClellan and Miss McClellan have made their home in England for the past few years.

The famous portrait of Robert Browning painted by Moscheles, is now in Chicago, where it is on exhibition. The prize was secured by Dr. Gunsaulus, the noted Chicago preacher.

THE DEMOCRATIC FACTIONS.

In New York—Cleveland and His Friends Responsible for the Situation—Letter From a Democrat.

To the Editor of the Intelligencer.

SIR:—The New York World and many other Democratic newspapers of the country have been publishing broadcast, and they speak it out boldly, that Governor Flower, Senator Hill, Gen'l D. E. Sickels, Edward Murphy, Henry W. Slocom, Manton Marble, the seventy-two delegates and alternates to the Chicago convention, the Democratic state executive committee and all Democrats that attended and conducted the state, county and city conventions of New York were tricksters and dishonest in political matters; that they got up a snap midwinter convention to take advantage of Cleveland and his friends, and to carry out their own selfish purposes.

Now, it strikes me, Mr. Editor, that these newspapers have taken broad ground in this matter and that what they have said will seriously compromise the harmony and best interest of the party.

The state Democratic executive committee of New York, no doubt gave the usual timely notice for holding the state, county, and city conventions, and I presume that no one prevented Mr. Cleveland and his friends from attending them, and if there was a wrong done it was their own fault, for they should have been there to prevent Governor Flower and his unholy gang of burglars, as they are called, from carrying out their selfish and fraudulent purposes; and just here I should like to know why it is that Mr. Cleveland and his co-kickers have no complaint to make of the parties who gave that Rhode Island State convention and put it through just nine days after that foul snap thing that was held at Albany.

Mr. Cleveland and his friends, I presume, were the architects of that job, and of course there were no burglars about when that affair came off. Oh, consistency!

It is true that Senator Hill is now, and always has been, a favorite of the Democracy of the Empire state for the reason that they know him to be a true Democrat and that he never went back on his friends. It is also true that Mr. Cleveland is not now popular in New York for the reason that he went back on his friends there and elsewhere when he was President by putting Democrats aside and gave some of the best paying offices in the country to Republicans and Mugwumps, and for the further reason that he said in that celebrated civil service letter of his published shortly after he was elected that Democrats asking him for office would not strengthen their claims by telling him that they were Democrats; and still further by allowing Republicans all over the country to remain in office up to near the time of Harrison's election.

These things are remembered by Democrats everywhere, and many of them refused to vote for his re-election on that account, hence his defeat in 1888, and now to cover up his own mistakes and want of sympathy and care for his Democratic friends, he and his co-kickers howl out and say that Senator Hill defeated the party at the last presidential election. I fail to see, Mr. Editor, what our Democratic friends in New York have done to justify the harsh criticisms upon their course that is now going the rounds of the Democratic press of the country. Possibly these men whose honesty and character have been so bitterly assailed and called in question may feel like striking back next November, let the candidate for President be whom he may. It would be but human if they should, and I would not blame them if they did.

The World, since the town elections in New York, whines like a kitten and asks what is to be done to pacify and bring together the warring elements of the party, a war that its editor organized and set in motion.

I can tell that gentleman that it will be no easy matter to pacify men that have been called burglars and scheming tricksters and get them to compromise their manhood and self-respect by embracing the men and the party that smote them. And if New York and the

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presidency be lost to the Democratic party next November, that disaster will be at the door of Grover Cleveland and his co-kickers who voted for Republicans at the late town elections in New York.

B. W. PRICE.

Moundville, O., March 9.

Atkinson for Governor.

To the Editor of the Intelligencer:

SIR:—Please state, if you wish, that the bone and sinew of the Republicans of this section now, as Mr. Elkins will not accept the Republican nomination for governor of West Virginia, are and will heartily support Hon. G. W. Atkinson for governor, and desire to suggest Hon. Edward S. Elliott, of Preston county, for Congress in the Second district, or anything else he will accept.

W. H. GILBERT.

Fiedmont, W. Va., March 11.

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